

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 are currently pending. Claims 1, 5, and 6 have been amended by the present amendment. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0017798 to Hurtta et al. (hereinafter “the ‘798 application”); and Claims 2 and 3 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a relay apparatus, which is connected to a first content server located on a private network and delivers various content, relays the content delivered by the first content server to a mobile terminal, the mobile terminal and the relay apparatus being connected to a radio network including an RAN (radio access network), the relay apparatus comprising: (1) a table setting section which sets, in accordance with the instruction from the mobile terminal, a table including a radio connection identifier to identify a channel through which a content is sent and received between the mobile terminal and the relay apparatus, and an IP address with which the content is sent and received between the relay apparatus and the first content server; (2) a receiving section which receives content request information from the mobile terminal; and (3) a transfer section which transfers the content request information to an IP address included in the content request information when, based on the content request information received by the receiving section, the radio connection identifier and the IP address included in the content request information are identified in the table set by the table setting section. Claim 1 has been amended to correct minor informalities and no new matter has been added.

The '798 application is directed to a system for providing a connection in a communication network that includes several network elements, wherein the system is configured to establish a connection to a first network element and one or more selectable core network elements, wherein one of the network elements stores a list of core network elements that are selectable by the first network element. Further, the '798 application discloses that the mobile station sends an identifier that identifies an area and/or an identifier that identifies a desired core network element to the first network element, which then selects a core network element based on the identifier sent by the mobile station. Further, as shown in Figure 5, the '789 application discloses that the list or table can be used by the first network element to select the core network element. Figure 5 shows a table having four columns including the "SGSN" column that lists available serving nodes; a column entitled "IP address of SGSN," which lists the IP addresses of the individual label serving nodes; a column labeled "SGSN name," which lists the identifiers identifying the individual serving nodes; and a column labeled "routing area," which lists the routing areas or location areas being covered by the individual serving nodes.¹ Further, the '798 application discloses that "an area identifier such as 'routing area identifier (RAI)' may be used by the first network element (e.g., RNC) to derive a list of alternative selectable second network elements such as support nodes."² Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the routing area identifiers, such as RA1 and RA2 shown in Figure 5, are identifiers that identify a particular geographical coverage area of the network.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '798 application fails to disclose a table setting section which sets a table including a radio connection identifier to identify a channel through which content is sent and received between the mobile terminal and the relay apparatus, and (2) an IP address with which the content is sent and received between the relay

¹ See paragraph 59 of the '798 application.

² '798 application, paragraph 16.

apparatus and the first content server, as recited in Claim 1. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that the '798 application fails to disclose a table that includes a radio connection identifier to identify a channel through which content is sent and received between the mobile terminal and the relay apparatus, as recited in Claim 1. In particular, Applicants note that the table recited in Claim 1 includes two elements both involving the relay apparatus: (1) a radio connection identifier to identify a channel through which content is sent and received between the mobile terminal and the relay apparatus, and (2) an IP address with which the content is sent and received between the relay apparatus and the first content server. Thus, the table includes two pieces of information both of which involve the relay apparatus. In this regard, Applicants note that the outstanding Office Action is equating the claimed relay apparatus with the RNC disclosed by the '798 application.³ However, the '798 application does not disclose that the RNC includes a table setting section that sets the table recited in Claim 1. In particular, ***the routing area information (e.g., RA1, RA2) shown in '798 Figure 5 does not correspond to the claimed radio connection identifier that identifies a channel through which content is sent and received between the mobile terminal and the RNC.*** Rather, the routing area is merely an identifier that identifies a coverage area of the network. The routing area identifier disclosed by the '798 patent does not identify a channel through which content is sent and received between the mobile terminal and the RNC. Rather, as shown in Figures 2 and 4, the routing area identifier is sent by the mobile station to the RNC and indicates to the RNC the area to which the mobile station wishes to establish a connection.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that the '789 application fails to disclose a transfer section which transfers the content request information to an IP address included in the content request information when the radio connection identifier and the IP address

³ See page 2 of the outstanding Office Action.

included in the content request information are identified in the table set by the table setting section. Initially, Applicants note that since the table shown in Figure 5 of the '798 application does not disclose the claimed radio connection identifier, it cannot disclose the transfer section recited in Claim 1. Claim 1 requires that two pieces of information be identified in the table: the request connection identifier, and the IP address including in the content request. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '798 application does not disclose that the RNC checks whether both an IP address included in the content request information sent by the mobile station, and a radio connection identifier that identifies a channel through which content is sent and received between the mobile station and the RNC are included in the table. Rather, the '798 application merely discloses that the table of Figure 5 is used to select a core network element based on the connection request received by the mobile station.

For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of Claim 1 (and dependent Claim 4) as anticipated by the '798 application.

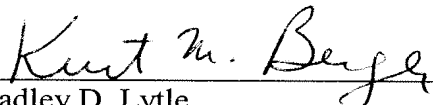
Independent Claims 5 and 6 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claim 1. Accordingly, for reasons analogous to the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of Claims 5 and 6 as anticipated by the '798 application.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 5, and 6 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the '798 application.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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